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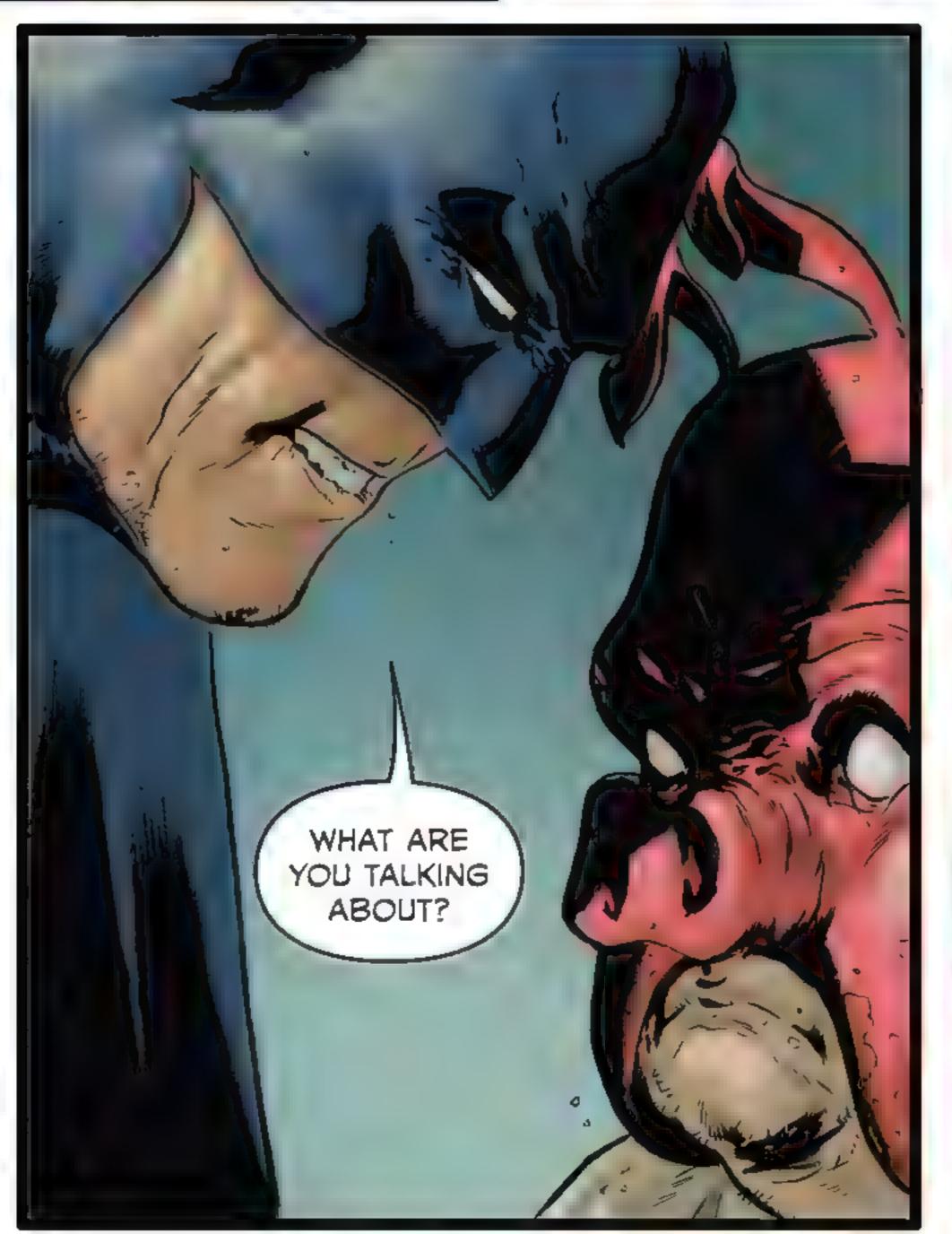










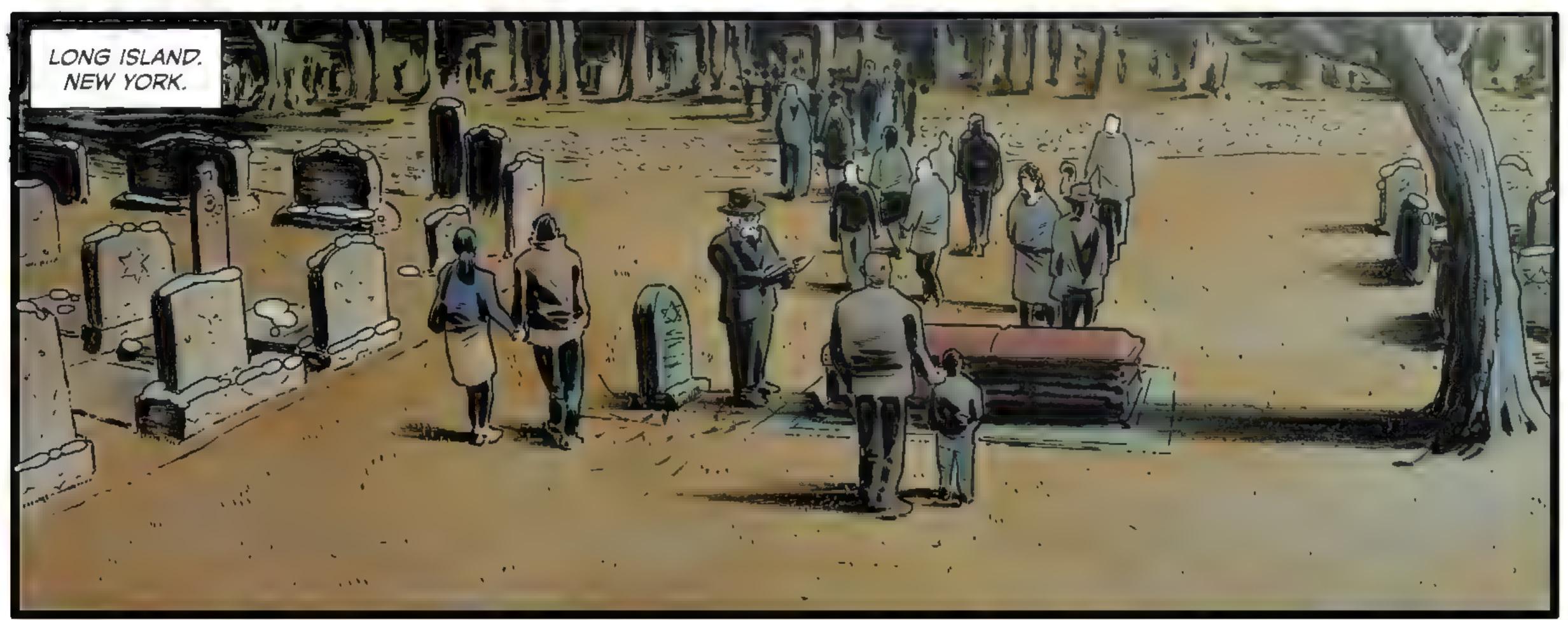


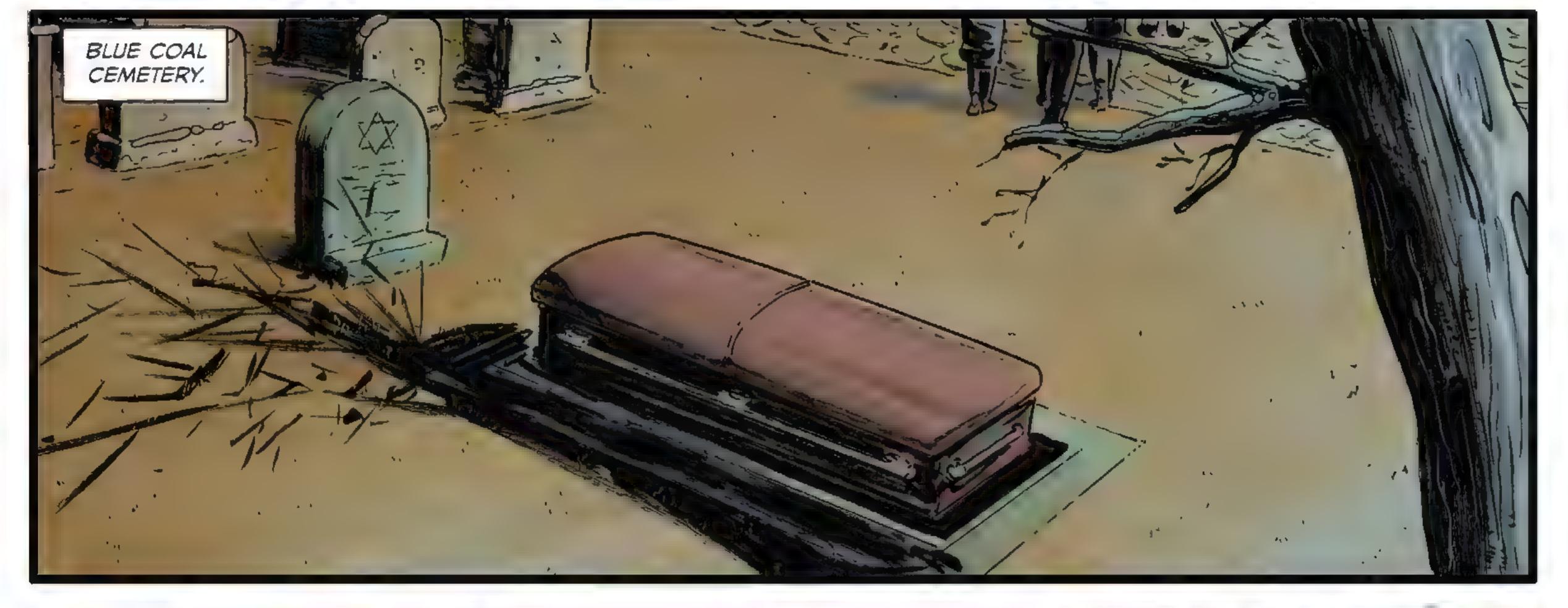


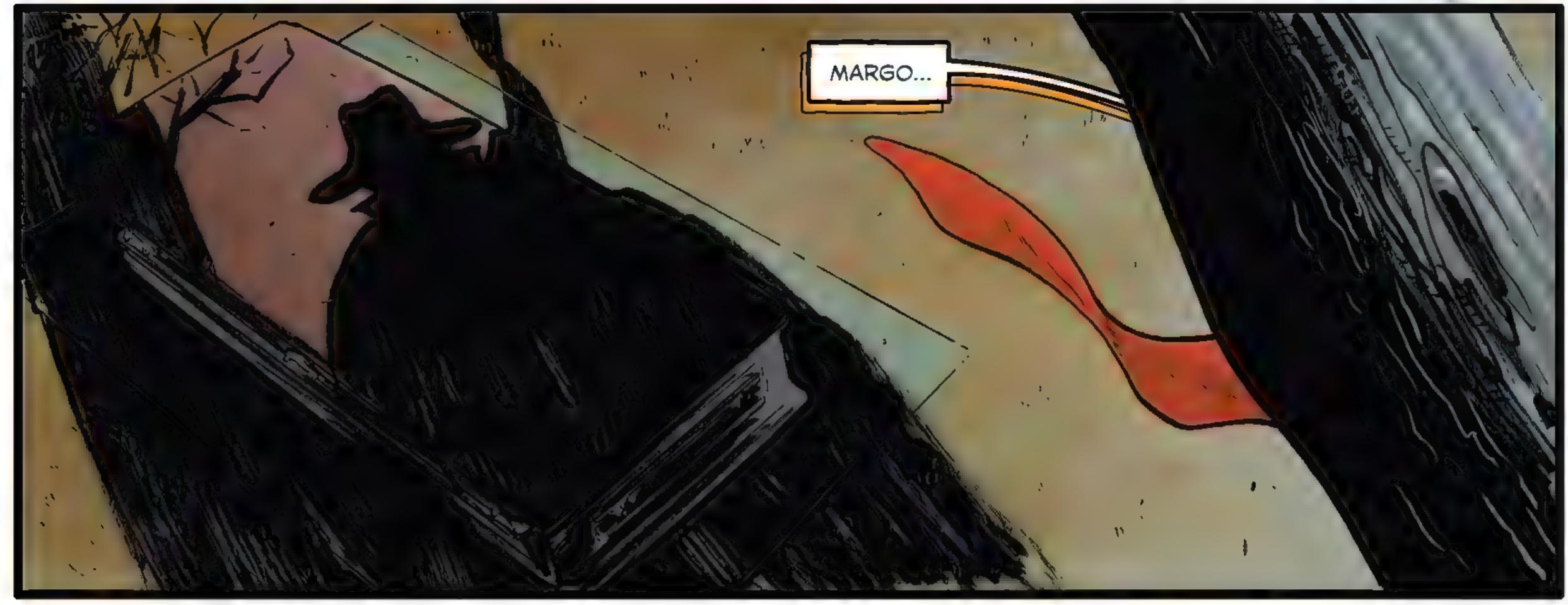












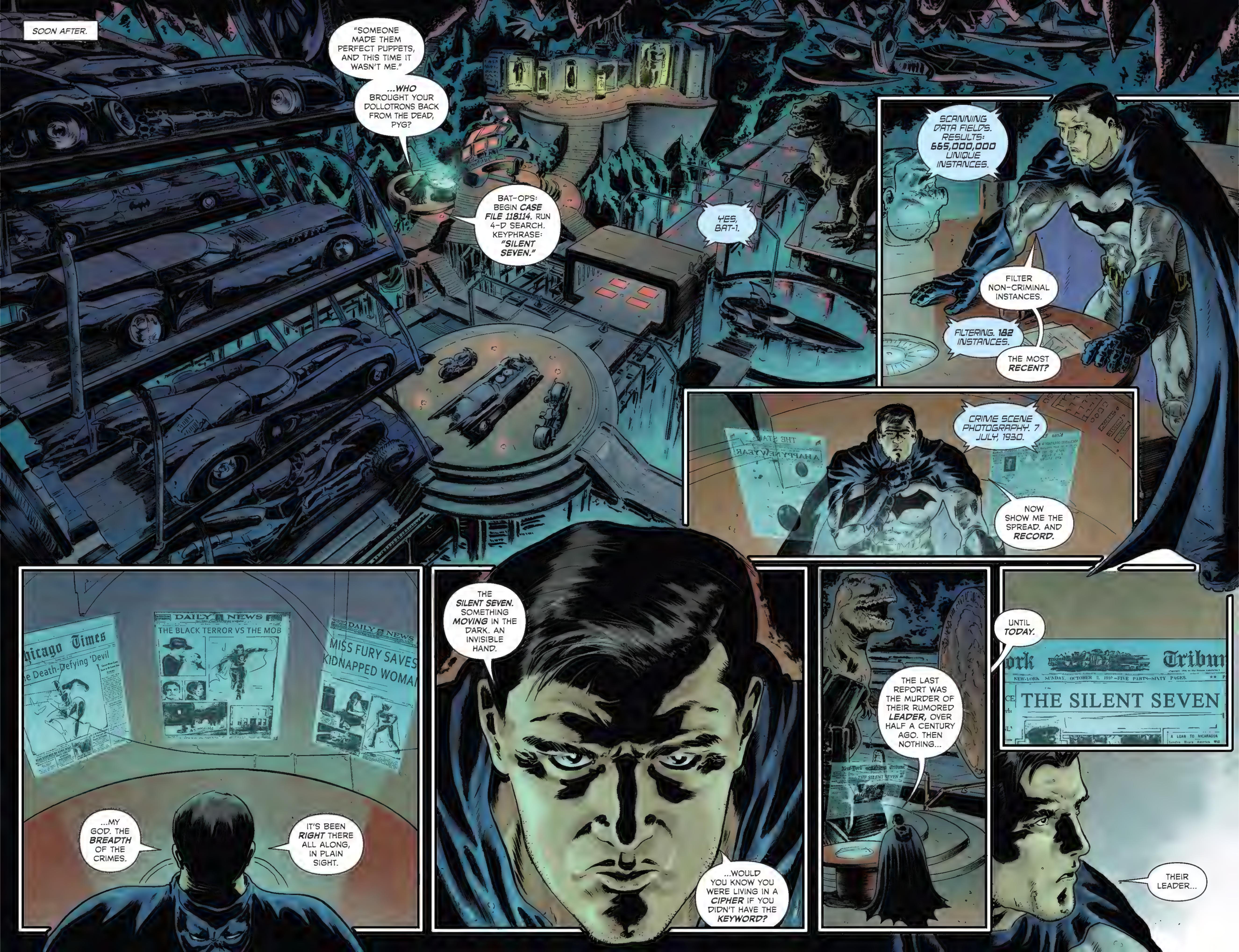




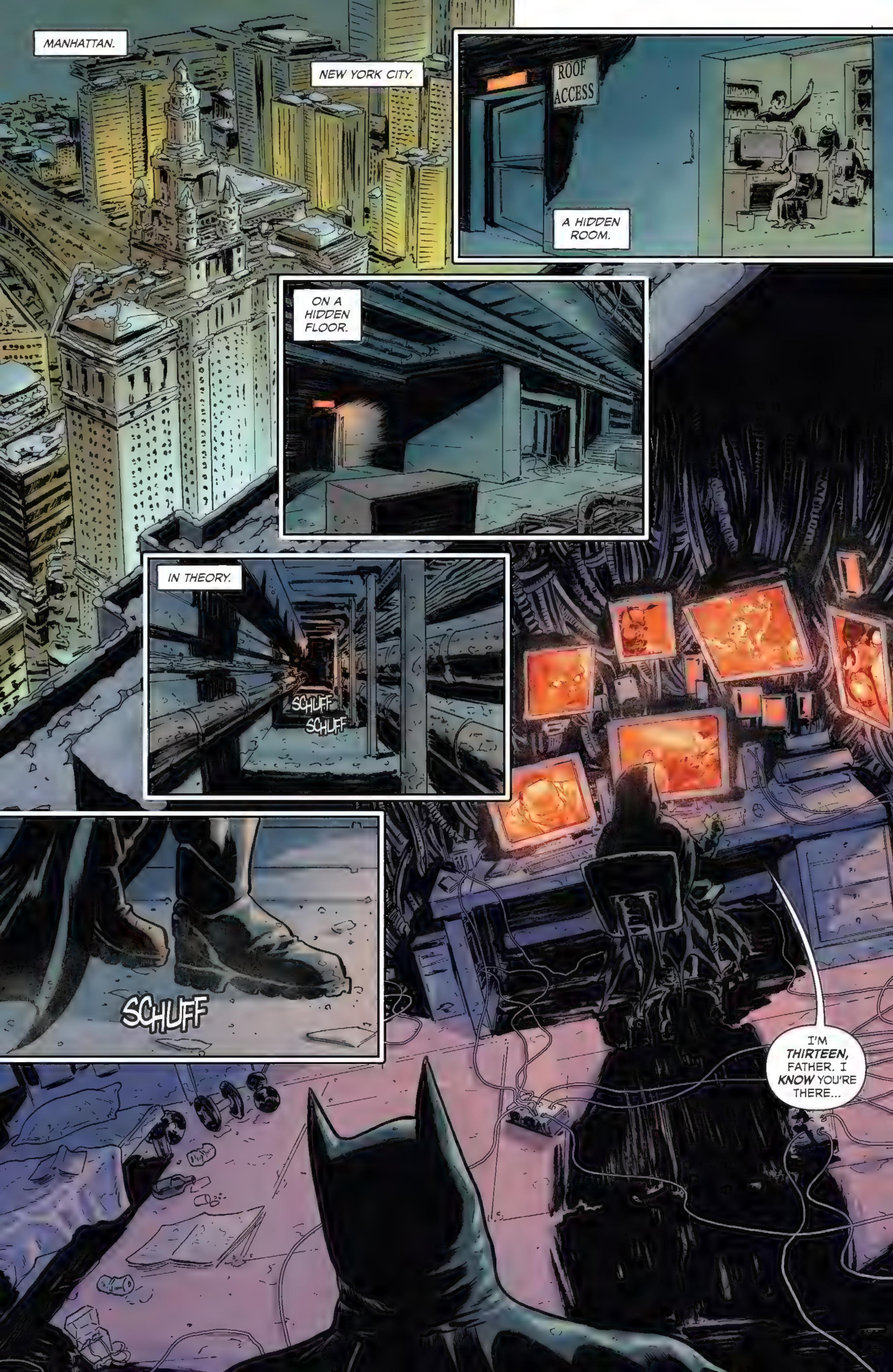








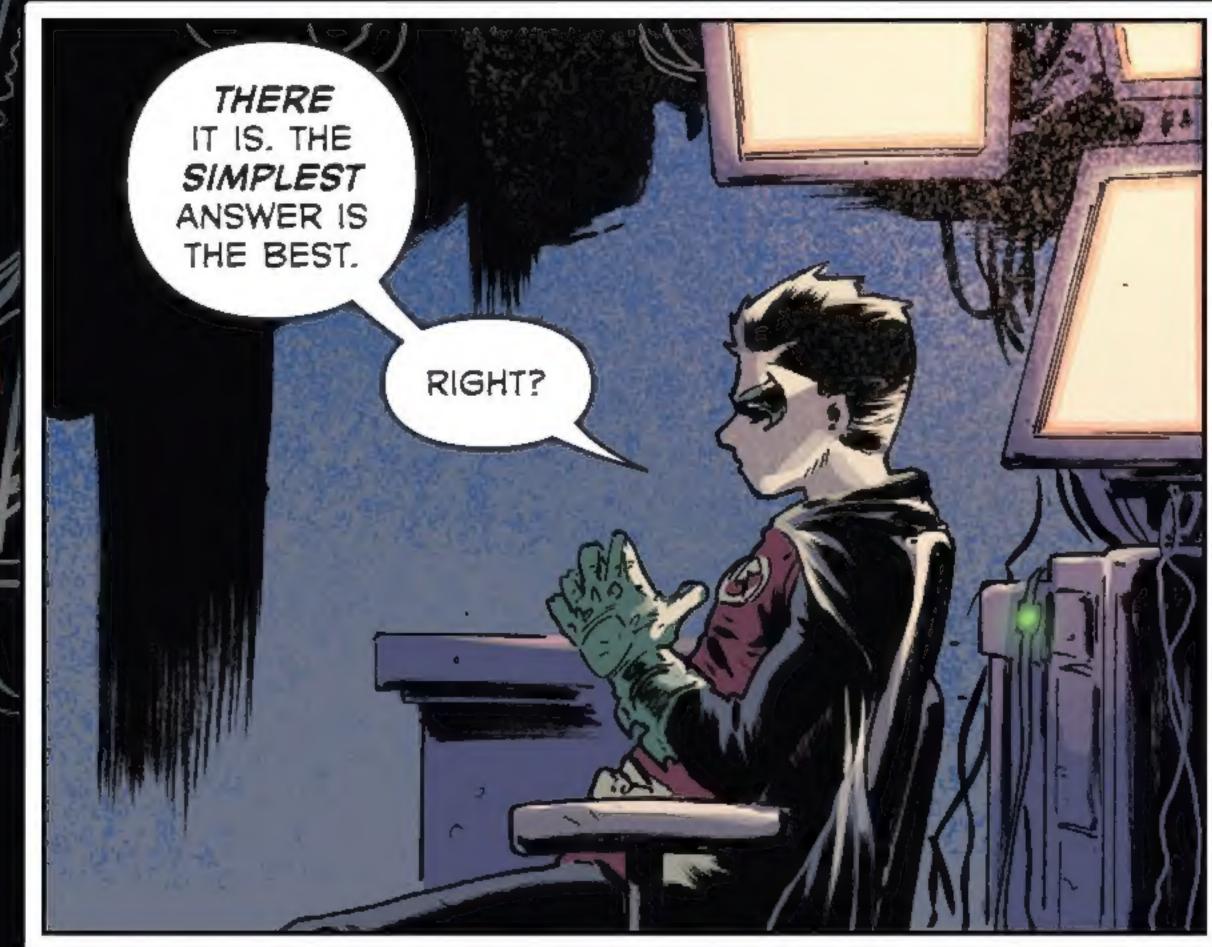


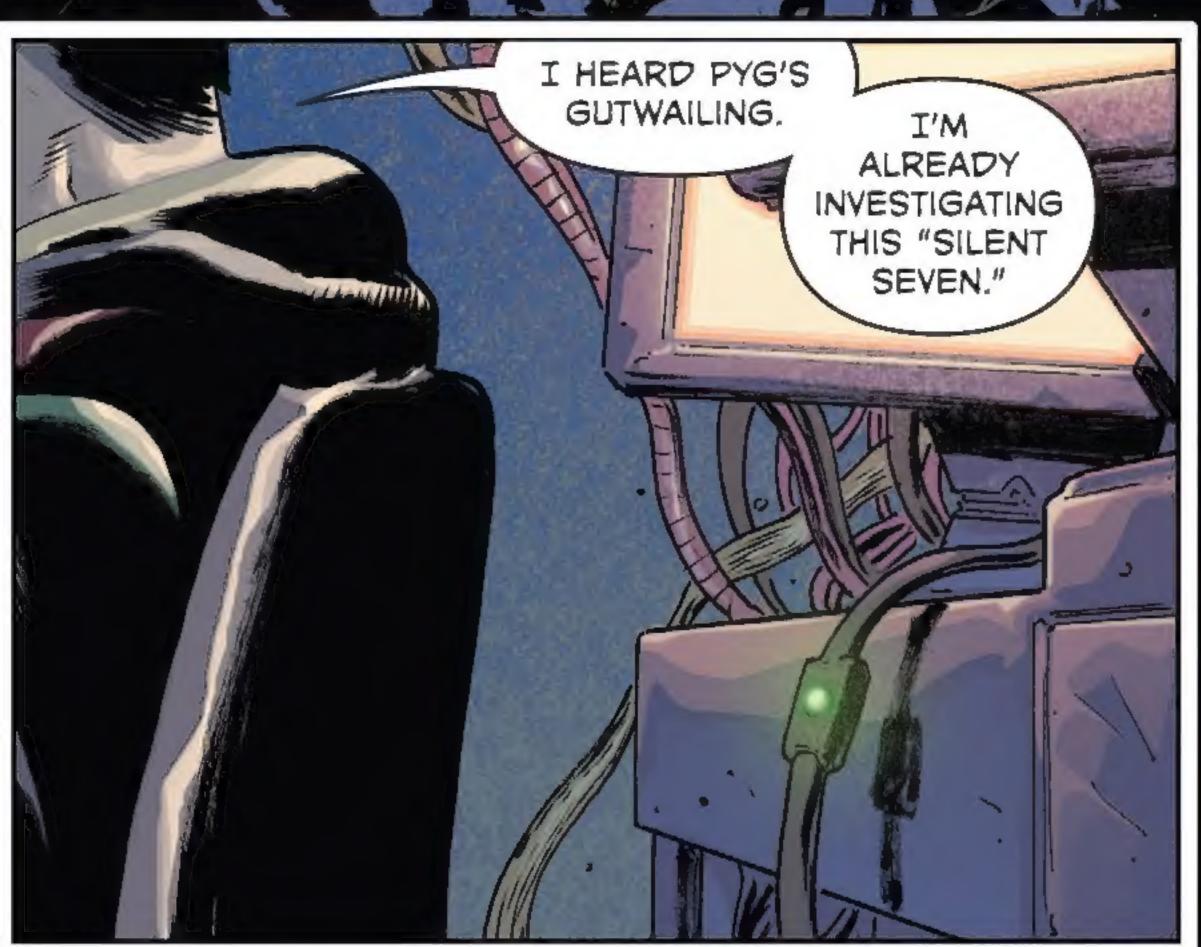


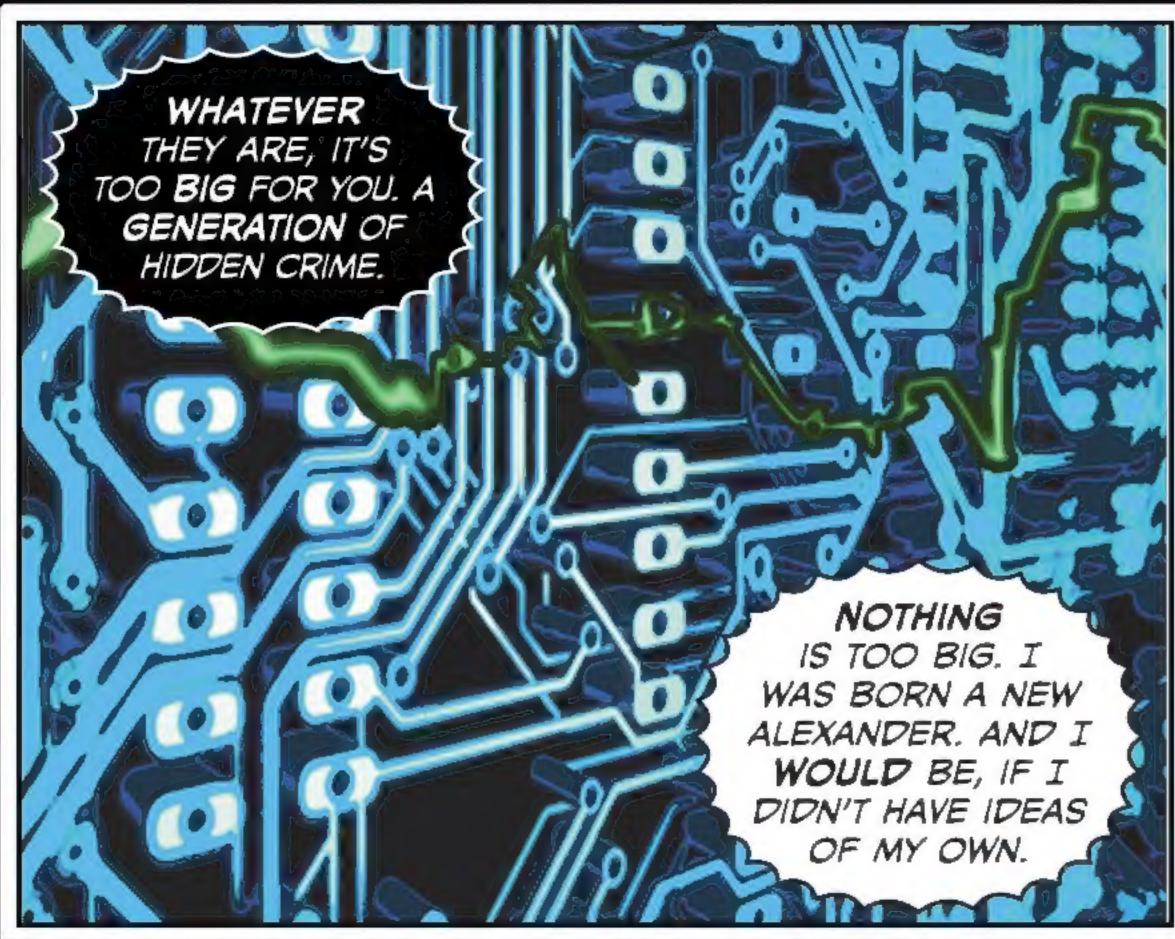


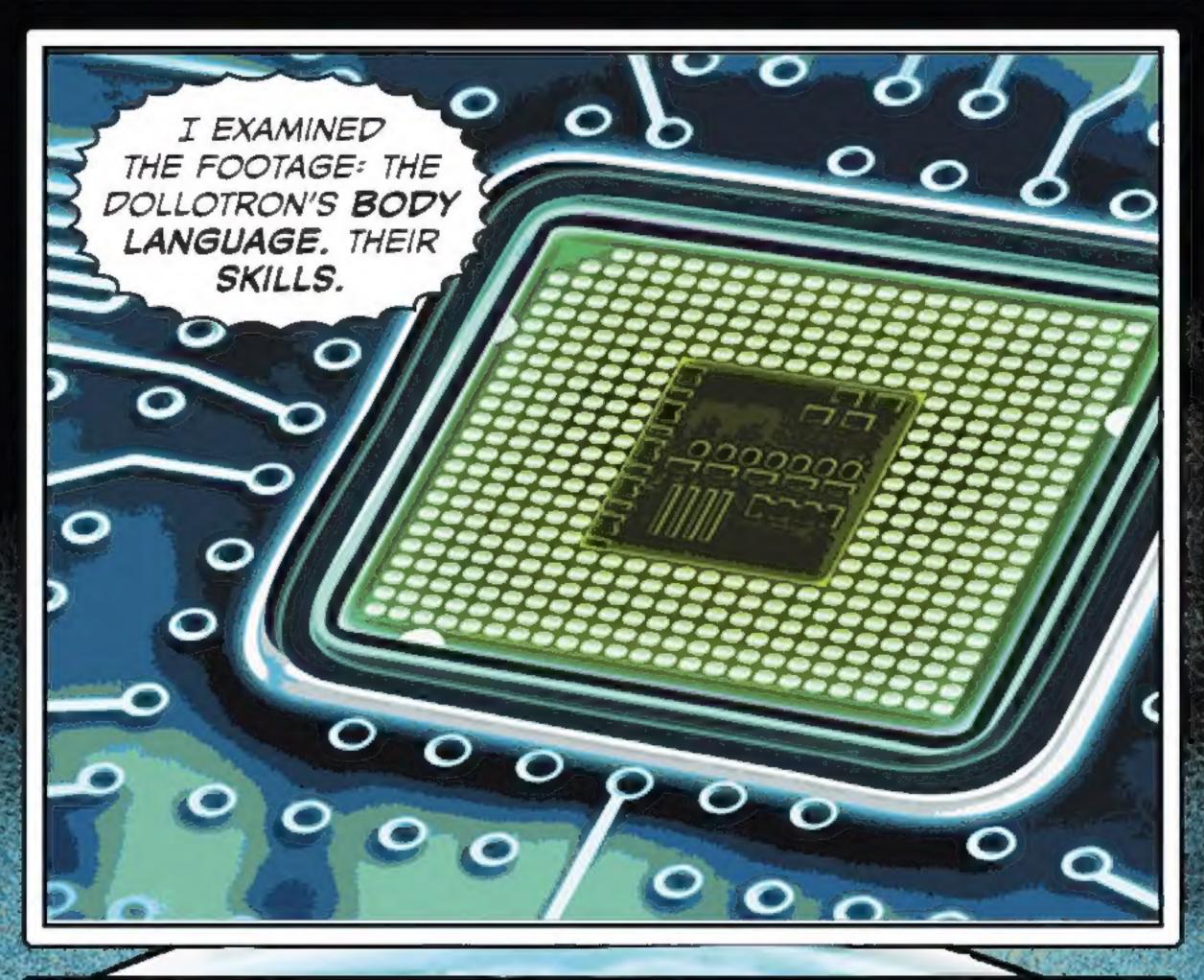


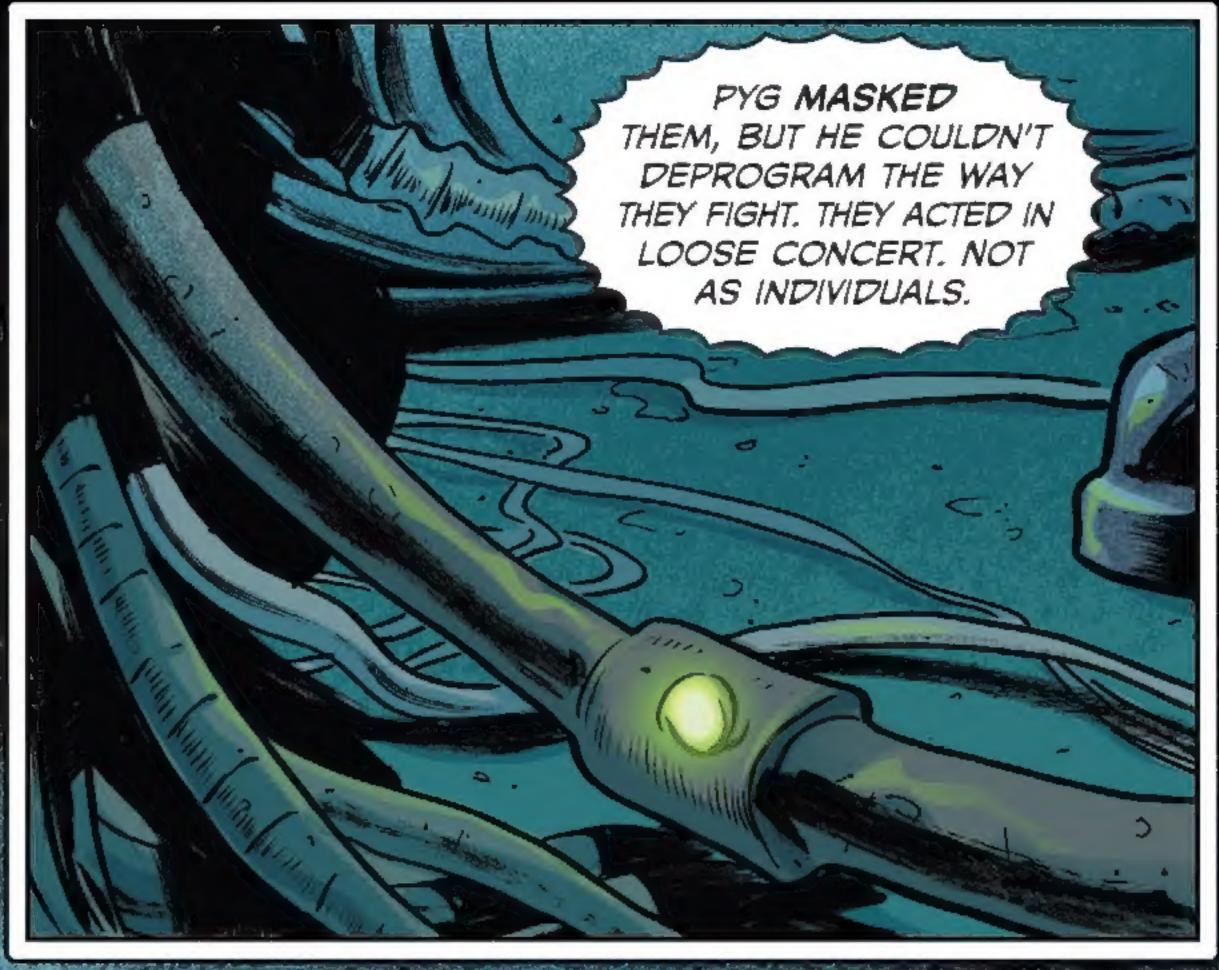








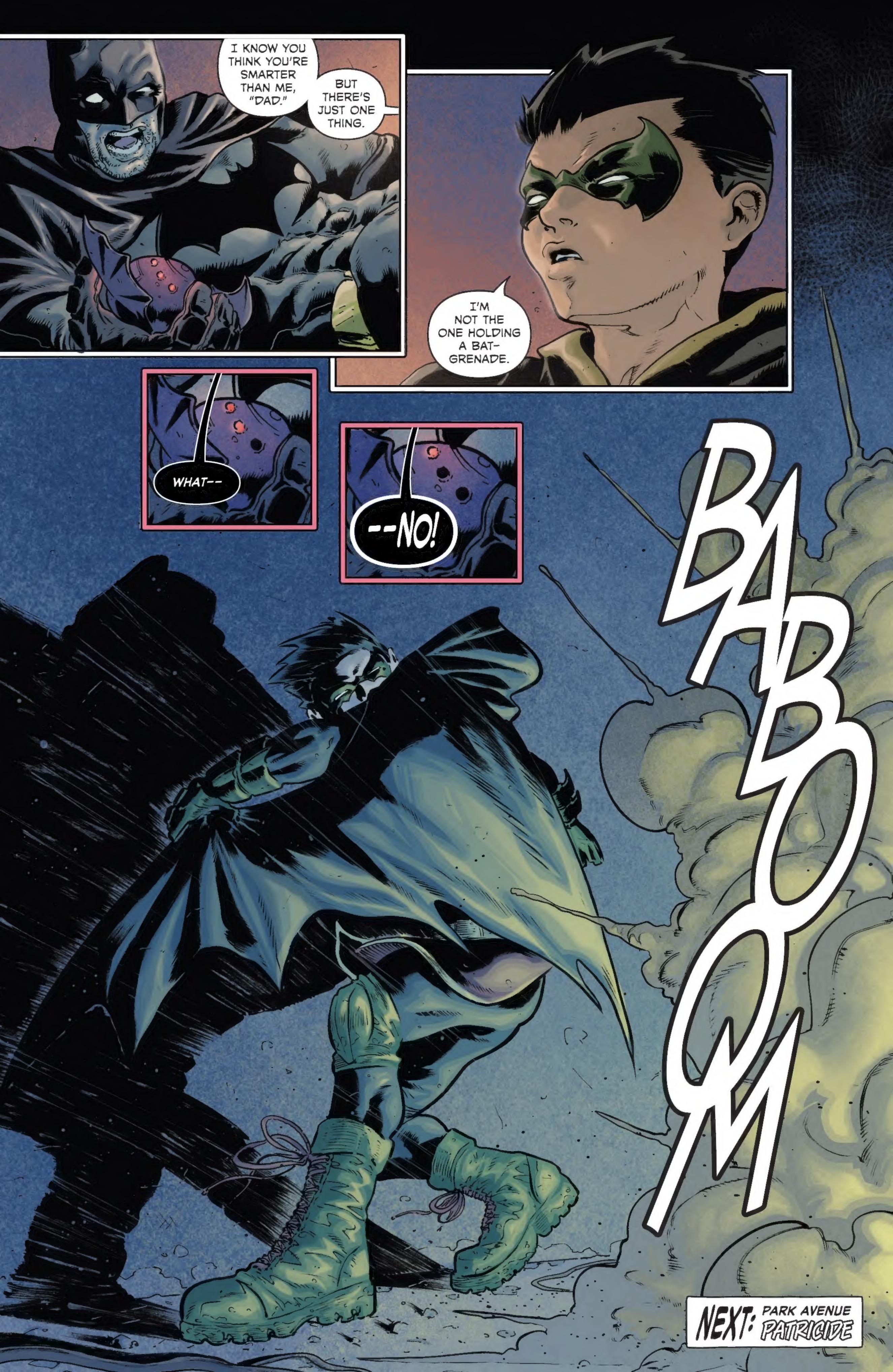












# DISPATCH ® OCTOBER 2017



#### **NEXT ISSUE**

The truth of what the Shadow doesn't know threatens to destroy his partnership with Batman and Robin just when they need him the most. Three generations of heroes stand at a crossroads as the secret of the Silent Seven threatens to encompass and obliterate them all. To fight the Seven, Batman and the Shadow must force them to reveal themselves. But how do men make moves against a behemoth evil that measures assaults in centuries?

## DYNAMITE AND WRITER MIKE CAREY (LUCIFER, X-MEN) BRING BARBARELLA BACK TO COMICS THIS DECEMBER!

Barbarella hasn't been published in comic book form in more than 35 years. How does your version of the character compare/contrast to the original?

I've actually stayed very close! The core of Barbarella's personality – her imperturbable calm as she is catapulted from one outrageous crisis to the next, her sexuality and her moral courage – all that stuff remains intact. Barbarella's voice is unchanged too: it's dryly comic, direct, trenchant. It's the world that has changed, I think, and that's because our world has changed. I've given her a more modern context to react to, or rather a whole series of contexts.

#### Where did you draw your inspiration from for the series?

I went back to the original series, first of all — and I decided that as a structural model it was pretty much perfect. Jean-Marc L'Officier describes Barbarella as a sort of adult-themed Alice In Wonderland. It's picaresque, with stark juxtapositions and changes of scene, and with a fast-paced narrative that can go anywhere and do anything. That was what I was aiming to emulate.

I also read a bunch of other picaresque stories — Candide, Tristram Shandy, Nights At the Circus, the Torturer Quartet. These were novels I already loved, so I didn't need much excuse. I was looking at them very much from the point of view of how they handle transitions and expositions, and how they embed serious ideas in light, limber storytelling.

During the 60s, Barbarella was an icon of female empowerment. As feminism itself has evolved in the last 40 years, how has Barbarella evolved to adapt to represent the modern woman?

Barbarella as Jean-Claude Forest wrote her was a woman who was entirely comfortable in her own skin and her own identity. Her sexual openness was a part of that, but it also showed in her utter refusal to genuflect to other people's agendas or moral strictures. She knew who she was and you couldn't bend her into anything else. She's an idealised figure, in many ways. All I had to do was to transpose her into a twenty-first century context. So, for example, she doesn't identify as straight any more. Why would she? In our own time, fewer than half of millennials would call themselves that, and the future is likely to be less polarised, not more.

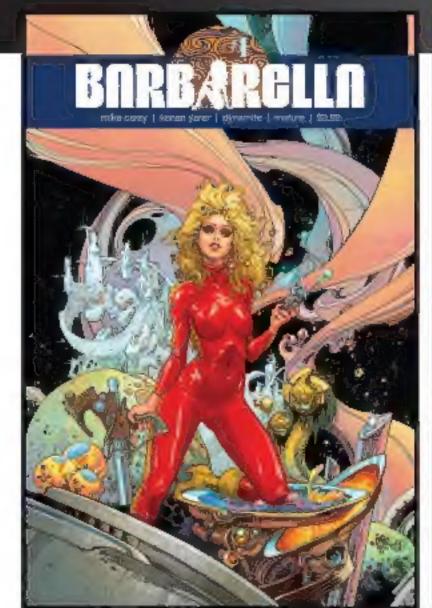
#### What's your favorite part about writing Barbarella?

The size of the canvas, and the creative freedom. The original stories took place in a limitless universe, and they only ever moved forward, constantly introducing new characters and situations, new settings and McGuffins. I took that to be part of my brief, and it's crazy fun to do. It encourages you to push the envelope, and it whips you on if you're ever tempted to tread water. It's a book that only works if it's in overdrive.

I'm really excited to be working with Kenan Yarar. He's an artist with an exuberant, dazzling, playful style that's perfect for the book - and he's a great collaborator, always coming up with left-field solutions to narrative problems.

Barbarella #1 featuring covers by Kenneth Rocafort, Joe Jusko, Joseph Michael Linsner, and more is in stores 12/6/17. Ask your local retailer or visit dynamite.com for more information.

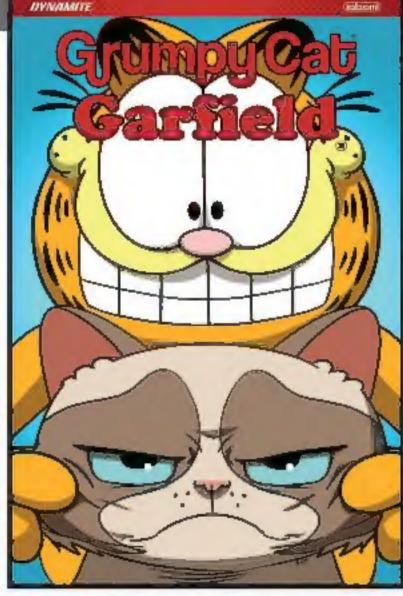
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MIKE CAREY



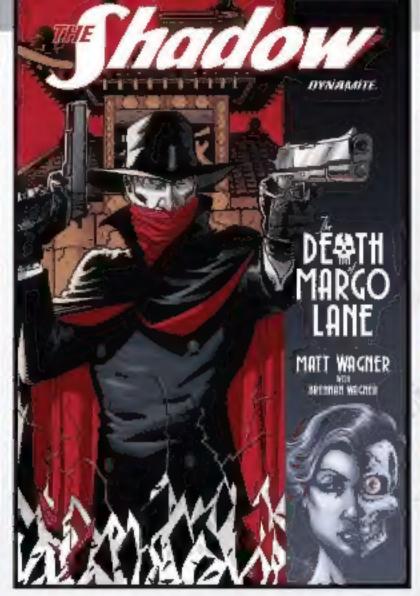
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WRITTEN BY
AMY CHU



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